

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Wednesday, May 11, 2016, for the purpose of reviewing the Green Ridge House section of the Proposed FY 2017 Budget.

Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 7:36 p.m. It was held in the Dining Room at Green Ridge House.

PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Konrad E. Herling, Silke I. Pope, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan. Councilmember Leta M. Mach was out of the country. Councilmember Judith F. Davis had a prior commitment and was unable to attend.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager; Joyce Kolenky, Green Ridge House Service Coordinator; Christal Batey, Community Resource Advocate; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Steve Seh, Kim Potts and Patty Ramsburg of Community Realty Company.

Council reviewed the Green Ridge House section of the budget. Ms. Potts reported on the accomplishments for FY 2016. She advised that there are currently 91 people on the waiting list for apartments.

In response to a question about the proposed budget for maintenance expense, Ms. Potts explained that Green Ridge House has its last inspection from the Real Estate Assessment Center about three years ago so a new inspection is expected sometime this year. She commented on the stringent requirement of this inspection.

Ms. Potts said a dead tree in the front of the building is scheduled to be removed. Mayor Jordan mentioned that the Advisory Committee on Trees has developed a list of preferred trees for planting in the City.

Ms. Batey reported that the Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) Program conducted a resident satisfaction survey during November 2015 for residents of Green Ridge House. She said 33 out of the 101 residents completed the survey. Ms. Batey reviewed the survey results noting that 97% of respondents indicated they were very satisfied with their unit, the building and the neighborhood, and 94% were very satisfied or satisfied with the management of the building.

Mr. Seh and Ms. Potts then reviewed the proposed capital expenses planned for FY 2017 including apartment renovations as needed, replacement windows as needed, elevator upgrades, and various common area renovations.

Mr. Herling asked about recycling at Green Ridge House. Ms. Potts said Green Ridge House has been experiencing a problem with contaminants (including needles) being deposited in its recycling container. She reviewed the steps management has taken to address the problem, including holding a mandatory meeting with all residents. Ms. Potts noted that this problem occurs in the evenings and on weekends when management is not present. After discussion, Council suggested Ms. Potts contact Luisa Robles, the City's Sustainability Coordinator, and set up a meeting regarding recycling with Green Ridge House residents.

Raymond Cote, resident, suggested that smoking be prohibited on Green Ridge House property. He said when smokers use the designated smoking areas outside, the smoke prohibits use of adjacent areas (such as terrace) by other residents. Ms. Potts and Mr. Seh said management would look into the problem.

Krystyna O'Neill, resident, reported that she had difficulty maneuvering her power wheelchair on the sidewalk from Ridge Road (by the crosswalk) due to the steep grade. Mr. McLaughlin said the City will look at this sidewalk.

Carolyn Kepler, resident, spoke about the activities of the Green Ridge House Residents Association.

Mayor Jordan and Council thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting ended at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Cindy Murray
City Clerk*